Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph [Cross Reference to Related Applications], [0004], [0043], [0047], [0050], [0053], [0057], [0062], [0066], [0069], [0070] as shown below:

This claims the benefit of U.S. provisional patent application Serial No. 60/346,575, filed January 7, 2002, entitled EXTRACTION CLEANER WITH POWER DRIVE, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/593,126, filed June 13, 2000, entitled EXTRACTION CLEANING MACHINE WITH CLEANING CONTROL, now U.S. Patent No. 6,446,302, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/139,127, filed June 14, 1999.

[0004] Upright extraction cleaners generally tend to be larger and heavier than upright vacuum cleaners, particularly when in use and the solution dispensing system is charged with a cleaning solution for application to a surface. Upright extraction cleaners are also known to have an optimal operating speed for dispensing and, particularly, extracting cleaning solution from a surface being cleaned, as disclosed in U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/593,126, filed June 13, 2000, and entitled EXTRACTION CLEANING MACHINE WITH CLEANING CONTROL, now U.S. Patent No. 6,446,302. A power drive system can be used in conjunction with the disclosed cleaning control system, although upright extraction cleaners having a pivotally mounted upright handle are not known to be equipped with a power drive system.

[0043] Referring to FIGS. 1-4, the upright extraction cleaning machine comprises a base housing 102 and an upright handle assembly 104. The upright handle assembly 104 is pivotally mounted to the base housing 102 and comprises an upper portion 106 and a lower portion 108. The upper portion 106 is formed of a front shell 900 and a rear shell 950 and includes a handle grip 110 and a solution trigger assembly 112. The lower handle portion is formed of a front shell 122 and a rear shell 124. The handle upper portion 106 is slidably connected to the handle lower portion 108 through a telescoping connection and a sliding block assembly 130 located in the handle lower portion 108. The front shell 122 and rear shell 124 define side extension cavity 118 ~~cavity~~ for enclosing internal components including the power drive elements. A carrying handle 902 is

attached to the lower portion 108 front shell 122 by two screws or other suitable fastening method.

[0047] Referring to FIGS 3, 4, and 6, the flexible belt 160 is a timing belt is driven by a belt drive gear 184 and that drives a wheel sprocket 364 on a wheel 116. The wheel sprocket 364 is secured to and rotates with the wheel 116 on axle 702, which is freely rotatable within a bearing in a lower end of the lower handle portion 108. Axial motion of the axle 702 is restricted by a snap ring 704 that fits in a groove on an end of the axle. The motor/transmission assembly 150 is linked to the sliding block assembly 130 by a bar 132, secured at a lower end portion to an end of an actuation lever 152, which is pivotally mounted to the housing of the motor/transmission assembly 150 through pin 153. The lever 152 is attached to a clutch mechanism within the motor/transmission 150 through a clutch pin 157 as will be described in more detail hereinafter. As the sliding block assembly 130 reciprocally~~reciprocates~~ moves longitudinally relative to the lower portion 108, the bar 132 moves the end of the actuation lever 152 vertically a corresponding distance, thereby pivoting the lever about pin 153 to move the clutch pin 157 laterally. In so doing, the transmission changes the direction of rotation of belt drive gear 184, depending on the direction of movement of the bar 132.

[0050] The first drive shaft 166 rotatably mounts a first drive gear 172 and a second drive gear 176 in axial alignment on drive shaft 166. Both drive gears 172, 176 are generally circular and comprise outer circumferential gear teeth. A drive spindle assembly 168 is keyed to the drive shaft 166 between the first drive gear 172 and the second drive gear 176 in axial alignment therewith. First drive gear 172 has a first clutch plate 162 mounted on a face adjacent to the drive spindle 168. Second drive gear 176 has a second clutch plate 164 on a face adjacent to the drive spindle 168. Drive spindle assembly 168 includes a clutch block 192, a yoke 194 and friction clutch material 167. The clutch block 192 is keyed to and rotates with the drive shaft 166, but can slide laterally a predetermined distance along the drive shaft 166 between the clutch plates 162 and 164. The yoke 194 is U-shaped and the legs thereof span the outside diameter of the clutch block 192. The legs of the yoke incorporate guides 196 that are received in an annular

groove in the clutch block 192. The bite portion of the yoke 194 is pinned to the actuator lever 152 through pin 157 (Fig. 4) and is pinned to the transmission housing 151 at an end portion of the legs. The mid-portion of the legs are laterally movable with respect to the transmission housing a relatively short distance. Lateral movement of the bite portion of the yoke 194 relative to the drive shaft 166 results in a corresponding movement of the clutch block 192 through the guides 196. The friction clutch material 167 is mounted on the surfaces of the clutch block 192 facing the secondary drive gears 172, 176.

[0053] The second drive gear 176 is intermeshed with an idler gear 178 that is mounted for rotation on an idler shaft 186. Idler shaft 186 is mounted on the transmission housing 151. Idler~~Intermediate~~ gear 178 is intermeshed with a third drive gear 180 fixedly mounted on the second drive shaft 182. When drive spindle 168 presses the clutch block 192 against the second clutch plate 164, second drive gear 176 drives idler gear 178 which 178 that in turn drives the third gear 180 and the second drive shaft 182 in a second direction. The drive force transferred to the at least one wheel of the extraction cleaner is in a direction opposite to the direction resulting from forcing the clutch block 192 against the second clutch plate 164. The drive wheel is thus selectively propelled in one of two directions, dependent upon the direction of the force applied on actuation bar 152 and the direction of movement of the drive spindle 168 toward first clutch plate 162 or second clutch plate 164.

[0057] Referring now to FIGS. 2, 3, and 4, a drive actuator 136 comprises ~~a~~ the sliding connection between the upper portion 106 and the lower portion 108 of the upright handle 104. The upper portion 106 slides into an opening at a first end 500 of the lower portion 108 to form the upright handle 104. A bearing sleeve 502 is located at a receiving end of the lower portion 108 rear shell 124 and functions to reduce friction and wear created as the upper portion 106 slides relative to the lower portion 108. A sliding block assembly 130 is located within positioning ribs formed in the rear shell 124 of the lower portion 108. The rear shell 950 of the upper portion 106 extends a sufficient distance to overlap a rearward surface of the block assembly 130. The block assembly 130 is fixedly attached to the upper portion 106 by screws or

other suitable fasteners. The block assembly 130 further comprises a block 504 that houses ~~a~~ the solution valve 170 and ~~a~~ the solution valve spring 506. A pair of spring posts 510 is integrally formed with the block 504 on opposite sides thereof and each post 510 is slidably mounted on a rib 514 of the rear shell 124. A coil spring 508 is mounted on each of the spring posts 510. Central portions of the coil springs 508 are retained by the ribs 514 to return block 504 to a neutral position in the absence of an external force by the user between the upper and lower portions 106, 108 of the handle assembly 104. A top surface 512 of the block 504 registers with the lower end 910 of the upper portion 106.

[0062] A third embodiment of a power drive assembly 350 for an extraction cleaner is shown in FIG. 10. In this embodiment, the drive motor 154 comprises a reversible DC motor 352 driving a transmission assembly 155 comprising a pinion gear 354 that is intermeshed with a secondary gear 356. The secondary gear 356 is fixedly attached to a drive shaft 358 for transferring rotational motion to a traction driver comprising a belt drive sprocket 360 and wheel 116. A transmission assembly 155 comprising a drive belt 362 then transfers rotational motion to a wheel sprocket 364 for rotating a drive wheel 368 of the extraction cleaner. The reversible DC motor 352 is electrically connected to a DC power source 370 by a power switch 372 and a double pole double throw switch 374. The double pole double throw switch 374 can take the form of a standard form three-position toggle on the handle portion 110 for thumb actuation by a user, or can be internally mounted in the handle portion 110 and arranged to be controlled by an activation device such as ~~a~~ the handle actuator sleeve 210.

[0066] Referring now to FIG. 14, a seventh embodiment of a power drive assembly 550 for an extraction cleaner comprises a suction source 552 of the extraction cleaner 100 fluidly connected to a drive motor 154 comprising a turbine motor 556 via a fluid conduit 554, as disclosed in commonly owned U.S. patent application Serial No. ~~60/213,122~~60/312,122, filed August 14, 2001. The turbine motor 556 rotates a turbine drive shaft 560 on which is mounted a pinion gear 562. The pinion gear 562 is intermeshed with a secondary gear or transmission 570 ~~which 570~~

that drives a belt drive sprocket 572. The belt drive sprocket 572 is engaged by a drive belt 574 for transferring rotational motion to a drive wheel of the extraction cleaner.

[0069] Referring to FIG. ~~19~~17, a track power drive assembly 850 is disclosed. The traction drive 134 comprises a track assembly 850 comprising a motor/transmission assembly 852 according to any of the previous embodiments operably connected to a drive belt 854. Drive belt 854 is reeved around a track sprocket 858, which is rotationally mounted on an underside of the extraction cleaner. At least one track 868 is mounted on a pair of track sprockets 858, and rides on a plurality of bearing track spindles 860.

[0070] Referring to FIG. 18, an eleventh embodiment of a power drive 1000 is described in commonly owned U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/593,126, filed June 13, 2000, and entitled EXTRACTION CLEANING MACHINE WITH CLEANING CONTROL, now U.S. Patent No. 6,446,302, and is incorporated by reference. The base housing 102 houses a drive motor 1002 that is connected to a source of electricity by an electrical cord. A motor compartment (not shown) within the base housing 102 ~~secures~~ securely mounts the motor in place. While the motor 1002 as shown drives only rear wheels 116, the motor 1002 can also drive an agitation brush (not shown) for agitating debris from the surface being cleaned, as well as an impeller fan (not shown) to create a vacuum source for drawing dirt, debris, and fluid from the surface being cleaned.